THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

WILLIAM F. WELD GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.343

ESTABLISHING A POLICY FOR STATE EMPLOYEES TO PROVIDE VOLUNTARY SERVICES TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, it is in the best educational and economic interests of the Commonwealth to promote the sharing of its residents' talents and resources for the benefit of public education; and

WHEREAS, the voluntary participation of talented individuals can provide considerable assistance to public schools, school districts, and schoolchildren; and

WHEREAS, many businesses and non-profit entities are donating their employees' time and establishing mentor programs to assist schoolchildren in their educational achievements; and

WHEREAS, the involvement of parents in the education of their children is essential to the achievement of those children; and

WHEREAS, this Administration wishes not only to encourage the participation of its citizens in the public schools of the Commonwealth but also to provide a means by which state employees may voluntarily donate their time in such service; and

WHEREAS, the work schedules of most state employees preclude their participation in educational activities during regular school hours;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, William F. Weld, Governor of the Commonwealth, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Supreme Executive Magistrate, do hereby issue this Order and policy as follows:

ARTICLE I. DECLARATION OF POLICY

- 1.1 It shall be the policy of the Commonwealth to encourage state employees, within the Executive Branch, to voluntarily contribute their time and talents to the improvement of public schools of the Commonwealth and to the education of schoolchildren.
- 1.2 Consistent with the policies and guidelines to be developed pursuant to Article II below, any person employed in the Executive Branch, who is in a management position, may be eligible to provide voluntary services, on site, in public elementary, secondary, or vocational-technical schools within the Commonwealth,

during approved working hours, for a maximum of one half day twice a month, and without loss of salary, in order to assist in the improvement of public schools or the educational achievement of schoolchildren.

ARTICLE II. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POLICY

- 2.1 The Secretary of Administration and Finance, in consultation with the Secretary of Education, the Board of Education, and the Director of Personnel Administration, shall develop and issue uniform policies and guidelines for the voluntary participation of full-time employees of the Executive Branch in furthering the improvement of public schools and the achievement of schoolchildren in those schools.
- 2.2 The policies and guidelines issued pursuant to section 2.1 shall further define eligible employees and shall include provisions that participating employees may not be compensated by a school or school district, and shall not forfeit state compensation or benefits while engaged in approved activities in the public schools.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston this 20th day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and ninety-two.

William F. Weld, Governor Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Michael Joseph Connolly Secretary of the Commonwealth

GOD SAVE THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS